

April 2007

Elizabeth A. Jones, Chairman ★ Michael L. Williams, Commissioner ★ Victor G. Carrillo, Commissioner

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Rebate Update

Get Your Consumer Rebate Money Assigned Back To You!

One option to help your customers meet the 30-day deadline for consumer rebates is to have your customer assign the rebate to you. As their propane supplier, you may be more aware of the 30-day deadline and better able to ensure the application is turned in on time. Look for the enclosed one-page Assignment Form or go to www.propane.tx.gov to download the form. If you have any questions or need other forms, call Eileen Latham at (800) 64-CLEAR.

AFRED Forklift Rebate Maintains Propane Sales

In addition to retaining current propane forklift sales, AFRED's Forklift Rebate has won over a number of operators who previously used diesel and gasoline forklifts. More than 12 percent of the rebates go to forklift owners to replace their old gasoline and diesel forklifts with clean-burning propane.

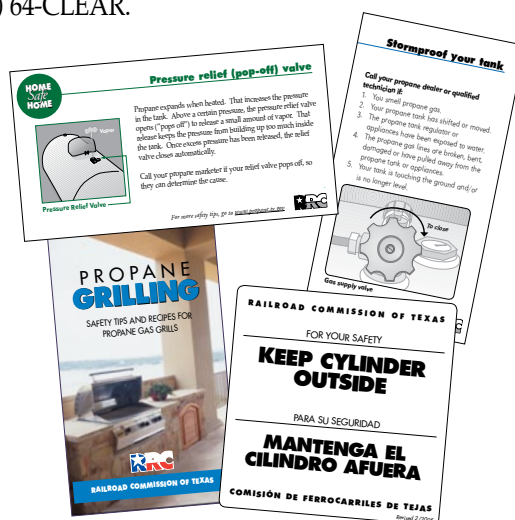
To date, the Forklift Rebate program has issued \$4.4 million for the purchase of new propane forklifts. The new lifts will reduce smog-forming NOx emissions in Texas by 894 tons over their useful life.

FY 2007 as of 4-02-07

REBATE TYPE	REBATE AMOUNT	PAID	PENDING
Water heater--new construction	\$150	\$185,100	\$18,300
Water heater--electric replacement	\$300	\$30,000	\$4,800
Propane Star Home	\$550	\$78,650	\$17,050
Propane SuperStar Home	\$750	\$79,500	\$11,250
TOTAL CONSUMER REBATES		\$373,250	\$51,400

Stock Up on Summer Safety Materials

From Propane Grilling Tips to Stormproofing Your Tank and Relief Valve Pop-off, AFRED can help you educate your customers about using propane safely. The materials work well either as bill stuffers or as brochures on your counter. Order these free safety materials by calling Eileen Latham at (800) 64-CLEAR.



Propane Star Builders Awards

AFRED has partnered again this year with the Texas Association of Builders (TAB) to recognize outstanding propane homebuilders, remodelers and architects through TAB's Star Awards. Last year, Railroad Commissioner Michael Williams recognized seven propane builders and their propane suppliers at the Gala Star Awards banquet. The homes were also entered into the Propane Education and Research Council's national builder award competition and featured in Butane-Propane News.

The final deadline for propane builders to submit their homes for the TAB award is May 14, 2007. Projects completed between January 1, 2006 and May 14, 2007 will be considered. The nomination form is available at www.texasbuilders.org.

The Gala Star Awards banquet will be held on September 28, 2007, in conjunction with the Sunbelt Builders Show at the Gaylord Texan Resort in Grapevine, Texas. For more information, call Heather Ball at (800) 64-CLEAR or your AFRED marketing representative.

Partner With AFRED on Trade Shows

Whether your customers prefer to come out for a Home and Garden Show, a Hunters' Roundup, a Turkey Fest or a Customer Appreciation Day, your AFRED marketing representative is available to help you set up a booth, provide graphics and promotional items, and help you staff it.

AFRED promotes propane at about 50 trade shows every year and generates more than 500 sales leads worth 525,000 potential new gallons. If your area has a trade show or other event that you'd like to partner with AFRED on, contact your local AFRED marketing rep or call (800) 64-CLEAR.

Clarification: Relief Valve Replacements

Last month's *Propane Insider* included a photograph of a forklift cylinder relief valve with a stamped replacement date. According to the manufacturer, the valve does not HAVE to be replaced by the date stamped on the valve. The stamped date is only a suggested replacement date.

Safety News Releases

At the recommendation of AFRED's Advisory Committee, the Railroad Commission will again issue monthly propane safety releases to news outlets in Texas. AFRED will track where the releases appear, and the information will be available to marketers for their Duty to Warn files. The first release will be issued this month and will cover safe transport of 20-lb cylinders for consumers gearing up for grilling and other outdoor activities. For more information, contact Heather Ball at (800) 64-CLEAR or your AFRED marketing representative.

Training Update

Managers' Update Class Will Be Offered Twice This Month

AFRED's popular one-day 6.1 Regulatory Compliance class for propane company managers has received so many registrations that it will be held twice: Wednesday and Thursday, April 25 and 26, at Gander Mountain in Tyler. Meeder Equipment will sponsor the Wednesday session, and R&W Supply will sponsor the session on Thursday.

Attendees who complete either session will receive 8 hours of Railroad Commission continuing-education credit. To register online, go to www.rrc.state.tx.us, click on "Propane/LP-Gas Certification & Training" and select "Register Now."

Need a Class by May 31?

Now is the time to register for a class for anyone in your company who has a May 31, 2007, training or continuing education deadline. Classes fill up fast this time of year, so please do not delay. To register, go to www.rrc.state.tx.us, click on "Propane/LP-Gas Training & Certification," and select "Register Now."

As in the past, certificate holders who miss their deadline will receive a cease-operations letter from the Railroad Commission. Effective June 1, these former cardholders will no longer be certified to perform LP-gas activities. Those wishing to regain their certification may do so by attending a class after May 31.

All AFRED 8-hour classes are free of charge for currently certified individuals who have renewed their cards at least once. The class fee is \$75 for persons who are attending their initial 8-hour class and for uncertified individuals, including those whose certification has lapsed.

Where Are the Classes?

Which One Should I Take?

This month's *Propane Insider* includes a schedule of AFRED training/continuing-education (T/CE) class and examination dates for the next two months. Employees with May 31, 2007, T/CE due dates who have not already done so should register for a class at www.rrc.state.tx.us as soon as possible, to ensure that their certification continues without interruption on June 1.

This month's *Insider* also includes AFRED's flier, "What Class Should I Take?" The flier lists all the courses that satisfy the training and continuing-education requirements for each category of certification.

Delivery-Fee Collections

Collections through March 30 totaled \$1,430,677, which is 2 percent lower than the average of previous years' collections at that date. As of March 31, heating degree-days for Texas as a whole were 5 percent below (i.e., warmer than) normal levels for the 2006-2007 heating season, and 6 percent below normal nationally.

PROPANE POINTERS



Emergency Shutoff Switches

Each month AFRED's hunting-dog mascot points to a section of LP-gas code or standard that the Safety Division's LP-gas inspectors often find violated. The "point" of these articles is to facilitate compliance by making marketers more aware of these issues.

This month's article covers a standard that RRC inspectors cited 205 times in the last three years. The standard is NFPA 58 §3.9.3.10, requiring emergency shutoff switches at LPG dispenser locations.

NFPA 58 §3.9.3.10 requires LP-gas cylinder filling and motor fuel dispensing facilities to be provided with an emergency shutoff switch or circuit breaker that is marked and installed in an accessible location at least 20 feet, but not more than 100 feet, from any LPG dispenser. The sign marking the switch location must be visible at the point of liquid transfer.

Marketers should ensure that these distance and signage requirements are observed. A shutoff switch or breaker that is located too close to the dispensing device could be inaccessible in the event of a fire or emergency, and one that is located too far away could delay an emergency response. The required signage should clearly identify the emergency shutoff and indicate how it operates. Section 9.140(g)(6) of the LP-Gas Safety Rules requires signage lettering to be at least 2 inches in height on a background of contrasting color.

NFPA 58 §3.9.3.10 is not addressed solely to your employees' safety. If your employee is incapacitated or injured in an emergency and cannot perform the function, a customer or someone else may have to activate the equipment.

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FAX: LP-Gas Safety Section	(512) 463-7319



RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS ALTERNATIVE FUELS RESEARCH & EDUCATION DIVISION

PROPANE DEALER REBATE ASSIGNMENT FORM

REBATE RULE INFORMATION

I, _____, hereby assign my propane consumer rebate to the propane dealer named below.
(name of applicant)

I understand the Commission may change the rebate amount at any time. I have received a copy of the Railroad Commission rules describing the Propane Consumer Rebate Program.

Installation Location: (Physical Location, no P. O. Box) _____

City State Zip: _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____ Daytime Phone:(____) _____

A S S I G N E D T O :

PROPANE COMPANY INFORMATION

Licensed Company Name: _____

RRC LP-Gas License Number: _____

State Tax Identification Number: _ _ - _ - _ - _ - _ - _ - _ - _ -

Address: _____

City State Zip: _____ Daytime Phone:(____) _____

Signature of Category E licensee, active company representative or operations supervisor on file with the LP Gas Section, Gas Services Division

_____ Date _____

Printed Name: _____

Please fax to: **512-463-7292**
or return to: **RAILROAD COMMISSION OF TEXAS**
ALTERNATIVE FUELS DIVISION (CONSUMER REBATE PROGRAM)
P.O. BOX 12967 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78711-2967

Railroad Commission of Texas - AFRED Examination and Class Schedule, April 2007.

Walk-in exams every business day, 8 a.m.-12 noon, at 6506 Bolm Road, Austin 78721

Date	City	Course Title	Facility	Address	Exams
Apr 3	Krum	1.1 Introduction to Propane - FULL	Masonic Lodge	230 N. 2nd Street	Students only
Apr 4	Houston	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	TxDOT	7721 Washington, Main Bldg	NO EXAMS
Apr 4	Krum	1.1 Introduction to Propane - FULL	Masonic Lodge	230 N. 2nd Street	Students only
Apr 4	Fort Worth	2.1 Dispenser Operations - FULL	U-Haul	3017 Alta Mesa Blvd	Students only
Apr 4	Beaumont	1.1 Introduction to Propane	TxDOT	8350 Eastex Frwy, Assy Rm	NO EXAMS
Apr 5	Houston	3.11 Residential System Insp. -FULL	TxDOT	7721 Washington, Main Bldg	NO EXAMS
Apr 5	Beaumont	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	8350 Eastex Frwy, Assy Rm	8:00 a.m.
Apr 5	Garland	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	1546 Rowlett Rd. Ste. 107	8:00 a.m.
Apr 9	Austin	3.3 Appliance Conversion	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 10	Austin	2.1 Dispenser Operations	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 10	Devine	1.1 Introduction to Propane - FULL	Triple C Restaurant	IH 35 S EXIT 122	Students only
Apr 10	Littlefield	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	R & W Supply	2210 Hall Avenue	Students only
Apr 11	Austin	Category F, G, I & J Mgmt - 2 days	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	-
Apr 11	Littlefield	3.11 Residential System Inspection	R & W Supply	2210 Hall Avenue	Students only
Apr 12	Littlefield	3.3 Appliance Conversion	R & W Supply	2210 Hall Avenue	Students only
Apr 16	Austin	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 17	Mesquite	3.8 RV Gas Appliances	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	NO EXAMS
Apr 17	Austin	3.2 Residential Propane Installation	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 17	San Angelo	3.8 RV Gas Appliances	RRC	622 S. Oakes, Room 114	Students only
Apr 18	Mesquite	3.3 Appliance Conversion	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	NO EXAMS
Apr 18	Austin	2.1 Dispenser Operation	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 18	San Angelo	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	622 S. Oakes, Room 114	Students only
Apr 18	El Paso	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	401 Franklin Ave., Rm 485	Students only
Apr 19	Austin	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
Apr 19	Mesquite	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	8:00 a.m.
Apr 19	San Angelo	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	622 S. Oakes, Room 114	8:00 a.m.
Apr 24	Odessa	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	TxDOT	3901 E. Highway 80	NO EXAMS
Apr 24	Harlingen	2.1 Dispenser Operations	TCEQ	1804 W Jefferson Ave.	NO EXAMS
Apr 24	Waco	1.1 Introduction to Propane	TxDOT	100 So. Loop Drive	NO EXAMS
Apr 24	Houston	2.1 Dispenser Operations - FULL	U-Haul	8518 Highway 6 South	Students only
Apr 25	Odessa	3.11 Residential System Inspection	TxDOT	3901 E. Highway 80	NO EXAMS
Apr 25	Harlingen	2.1 Dispenser Operations - FULL	TCEQ	1804 W Jefferson Ave.	NO EXAMS
Apr 25	Waco	1.1 Introduction to Propane-FULL	TxDOT	100 So. Loop Drive	NO EXAMS
Apr 25	Houston	2.1 Dispenser Operations - FULL	U-Haul	8518 Highway 6 South	Students only
Apr 25	Tyler	6.1 Regulatory Compliance FULL	Gander Mtn.	151 Market Square Blvd.	NO EXAMS
Apr 26	Tyler	6.1 Regulatory Compliance	Gander Mtn.	151 Market Square Blvd.	NO EXAMS
Apr 26	Odessa	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	3901 E. Highway 80	8:00 a.m.
Apr 26	Harlingen	EXAMS ONLY	TCEQ	1804 W Jefferson Ave.	8:00 a.m.
Apr 26	Waco	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	100 So. Loop Drive	8:00 a.m.
Apr 26	Houston	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	1706 Seamist Dr., Suite 501	8:00 a.m.
Apr 30	Austin	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only

Register online for exams or classes at www.rrc.state.tx.us. Click on "Training & Certification."
No examinations will be given out after 9:00 a.m.

For the latest schedule information about both exams and training/continuing education classes, go to www.rrc.state.tx.us. Click on "Class/Exam Schedule."

Railroad Commission of Texas - AFRED Examination and Class Schedule, May 2007.

Walk-in exams every business day, 8 a.m.-12 noon, at 6506 Bolm Road, Austin 78721

May 2	Fort Worth	2.1 Dispenser Operations	U-Haul	3017 Alta Mesa Blvd	Students only
May 3	Fort Worth	2.1 Dispenser Operations - FULL	U-Haul	3017 Alta Mesa Blvd	Students only
May 3	Abilene	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	4255 N. Clack	8:00 a.m.
May 7	Austin	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
May 8	Austin	2.1 Dispenser Operations	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
May 8	Fort Worth	1.1 Introduction to Propane	City of F.W.	4100 Columbus Trail	NO EXAMS
May 8	Lufkin	3.8 RV Gas Appliances	TxDOT	1805 N. Timberland Dr.	NO EXAMS
May 8	Mesquite	3.11 Residential System Inspection	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	NO EXAMS
May 9	Austin	Category F, G, I & J Mgmt - 2 days	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	-
May 9	Fort Worth	2.1 Dispenser Operations	City of F.W.	4100 Columbus Trail	NO EXAMS
May 9	Lufkin	1.1 Introduction to Propane	TxDOT	1805 N. Timberland Dr.	NO EXAMS
May 9	Mesquite	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	NO EXAMS
May 10	Fort Worth	3.5 Appliance Controls	City of F.W.	4100 Columbus Trail	NO EXAMS
May 10	Lufkin	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	1805 N. Timberland Dr.	8:00 a.m.
May 10	Mesquite	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	4777 E. Hwy. 80, Room 3B	8:00 a.m.
May 15	Midland	2.3 Delivery Truck Operations	RRC	10 Desta Drive	Students only
May 15	El Paso	2.1 Dispenser Operations	RRC	401 Franklin Ave., Rm 485	Students only
May 15	Amarillo	3.5 Appliance Controls	TxDOT	5715 Canyon Drive	NO EXAMS
May 16	Midland	3.11 Residential System Inspection	RRC	10 Desta Drive	Students only
May 16	El Paso	2.1 Dispenser Operations	RRC	401 Franklin Ave., Rm 485	Students only
May 16	Amarillo	2.1 Dispenser Operations	TxDOT	5715 Canyon Drive	NO EXAMS
May 17	Midland	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	10 Desta Drive	8:00 a.m.
May 17	El Paso	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	401 Franklin Ave., Rm 485	8:00 a.m.
May 17	Amarillo	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	5715 Canyon Drive	8:00 a.m.
May 21	Austin	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	6506 Bolm Road	Students only
May 22	Kilgore	1.1 Introduction to Propane	RRC	619 Henderson Blvd	Students only
May 22	Harlingen	3.8 RV Gas Appliances	TCEQ	1804 W Jefferson Ave.	NO EXAMS
May 23	Kilgore	1.1 Introduction to Propane-FULL	RRC	619 Henderson Blvd	Students only
May 23	Harlingen	1.1 Introduction to Propane	TCEQ	1804 W Jefferson Ave.	NO EXAMS
May 23	Houston	2.1 Dispenser Operations	U-Haul	8518 Highway 6 South	Students only
May 24	Kilgore	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	619 Henderson Blvd	8:00 a.m.
May 24	Harlingen	EXAMS ONLY	RRC	619 Henderson Blvd	8:00 a.m.
May 24	Houston	EXAMS ONLY	TxDOT	7721 Washington, Main Bldg	8:00 a.m.

Register online for exams or classes at www.rrc.state.tx.us. Click on "Training & Certification."

No examinations will be given out after 9:00 a.m.

For the latest schedule information about both exams and training/continuing education classes, go to www.rrc.state.tx.us. Click on "Class/Exam Schedule."

WHAT CLASS SHOULD I TAKE?

To receive training or continuing education credit, Railroad Commission rules require applicants for certification and certified individuals to complete courses related to their job duties. Following are the approved courses for each type of LP-gas certification.

Certification/RRC Designation	Approved Courses (Short Title)
Bobtail	1.1 Introduction to Propane 2.1 Dispenser Operations 2.3 Bobtail Operations 3.11 Residential System Inspection Category F, G, I and J Management Course Category E Management Course
Service and Installation	1.1 Introduction to Propane 3.1 Residential System Layout and Design 3.2 Residential System Installation 3.3 Appliance Conversion, Installation and Venting 3.5 Residential Appliance Controls 3.7 Appliance Electrical Troubleshooting and Repair 3.11 Residential System Inspection Category E Management Course
Appliance Service & Installation	1.1 Introduction to Propane 3.3 Appliance Conversion, Installation and Venting 3.5 Residential Appliance Controls 3.7 Appliance Electrical Troubleshooting and Repair 3.11 Residential System Inspection Category E Management Course
Portable Cylinder Filling	1.1 Introduction to Propane 2.1 Dispenser Operations Category F, G, I and J Management Course Category E Management Course
Motor/Mobile Fuel Dispensing	1.1 Introduction to Propane 2.1 Dispenser Operations Category F, G, I and J Management Course Category E Management Course
Recreational Vehicle Technician	1.1 Introduction to Propane 3.5 Residential Appliance Controls 3.8 Recreational Vehicle Gas Appliances Category E Management Course

(over)

Certification/RRC Designation**Approved Courses (Short Title)**

Category D Manager
(Applicant or currently certified)

- 1.1 Introduction to Propane
- 3.1 Residential System Layout and Design
- 3.2 Residential System Installation
- 3.3 Appliance Conversion, Installation and Venting
- 3.5 Residential Appliance Controls
- 3.7 Appliance Electrical Troubleshooting and Repair
- 3.11 Residential System Inspection
- 6.1 Regulatory Compliance for Managers
- Category E Management Course

Category E Manager
(Applicant—not currently certified)

Category E Management Course

Category E Manager/1E
(Currently certified, continuing education)

- 1.1 Introduction to Propane
- 2.1 Dispenser Operations
- 2.3 Bobtail Operations
- 3.1 Residential System Layout and Design
- 3.2 Residential System Installation
- 3.3 Appliance Conversion, Installation and Venting
- 3.5 Residential Appliance Controls
- 3.7 Appliance Electrical Troubleshooting and Repair
- 3.11 Residential System Inspection
- 6.1 Regulatory Compliance for Managers
- Category F, G, I and J Management Course
- Category E Management Course

Category F, G, I or J Manager
(Applicant—not currently certified)

Category F, G, I and J Management Course

Category F, G, or I Manager
(Currently certified, continuing education)

- 1.1 Introduction to Propane
- 2.1 Dispenser Operations
- 6.1 Regulatory Compliance for Managers
- Category F, G, I and J Management Course
- Category E Management Course

Category K Manager
(Applicant or currently certified)

- 1.1 Introduction to Propane
- 3.1 Residential System Layout and Design
- 6.1 Regulatory Compliance for Managers
- Category E Management Course

Category M Manager
(Applicant or currently certified)

- 1.1 Introduction to Propane
- 3.8 Recreational Vehicle Gas Appliances
- 6.1 Regulatory Compliance for Managers
- Category E Management Course

Course descriptions, class schedules, program rules, frequently asked questions and related information are available online at www.rrc.state.tx.us. Click on “Propane/LP-Gas Training” and select any topic.

Railroad Commission classes are free of charge for persons who have paid an annual certification renewal fee. A fee of \$75 for an 8-hour class is charged for new applicants, uncertified individuals and persons whose certification has lapsed.

Revised 2/2007

MARKETERS *MAKING NEWS*



Suzanne Mitcham, John Kelly, and Rick Byers worked the Kelly Propane booth at the Wichita Falls Home Show. AFRED rep Tracy Wells reports that Gas Equipment's burn trailer outside was a big hit, with its live demonstrations of gas logs, heaters and tankless water heaters.



Janet Burks of Wheat Energy Services pitched in to help AFRED's Bobby Wood corral the crowds at the Abilene Home and Garden Show. Warren Lawler of Lemens LP-Gas and Bernie Haley of TSW Energy also attended the show.



Richard Noack of Amerigas and James Payne of Independent Propane Company staffed the Bryan-College Station Home Products Show with AFRED's Susan DeCell. AFRED wishes Richard well as he launches his new career in the landscaping business.



Jay McClung, Independent Propane Company, worked with AFRED's Susan DeCell at the Bryan-College Station Home Products Home Show. The show generated 40 leads for area marketers equating to 12,000 potential new gallons and direct access to area builders and developers.



A giant sandstorm increased attendance at the Midland Home and Garden Show. AFRED's Bobby Wood, pictured with City Building Inspector George Friday, enlisted George's help to enroll five new area builders in AFRED's Propane Star Builder program. Blake Foy of Eddins-Walcher was delighted with the 15 new home leads the show generated.



Art and Kathy Morales of Sharp Propane, along with Michael Terry and Ben Morales, Sharp Propane, staffed the AFRED booth at the Bryan Home Products Show Preview Party. Participating marketers reported that attendance was larger than expected and drew in many new homebuilders, developers, remodelers and retirees.